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AND HEY — IT WAS HOME TO HEMINGWAY

CHECK OUT WHAT TO DO,
WHERE TO DINE AND WHAT
TO DRINK IN KEY WEST, WHICH
RIVALS WILD NEW ORLEANS
FOR STREET LIFE **PAGE 13**



May the storage be with you

Storage Wars, a show in
which a unit past payment
goes to the highest bidder, is
set to shoot in London **PAGE 3**

Russian ballet star gets six years for acid attack

Vicious backstage bickering
at the Bolshoi exposed **PAGE 7**



Michelle McConnell, administrative assistant in the city's corporate investments and partnerships office, gets a grip Tuesday on the 2014 budget proposal. For the first time, the budget's being presented in a glossy summary format instead of thick binders. MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

Tax increase talks start at 3.1 per cent

What to cut? Long and
difficult 2014 budget
process has begun



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It's finally here, and it's painful
— for now.

City staff presented a proposed 2014 tax increase to council Tuesday, and the all-important number is 3.1 per cent.

That will raise an extra \$15.1 million in property taxes, with \$4.8 million expected in extra revenue due to the expanding city. Except the increase won't be 3.1 per cent. Mayor Joe Fontana made that clear, with councillors in recent days mentioning figures between one and two per cent.

So how to fix that budget? With cuts.

Now begins the difficult process of identifying ways to bring costs down.

First, the city is unlikely to agree to budget requests from boards and commissions. Staff also presented possible savings.

For example, the transportation master plan, including the new bus rapid transit network, is costing the city more than \$300 million. Council might consider a trim.

The downtown master plan and economic-development initiatives could be targeted.

And there are the costs not accounted for, even if there's a 3.1 per cent tax increase.

They include safer railway crossings for pedestrians, the noise wall on Veterans Memorial Parkway and replacing trees killed by the emerald ash borer.

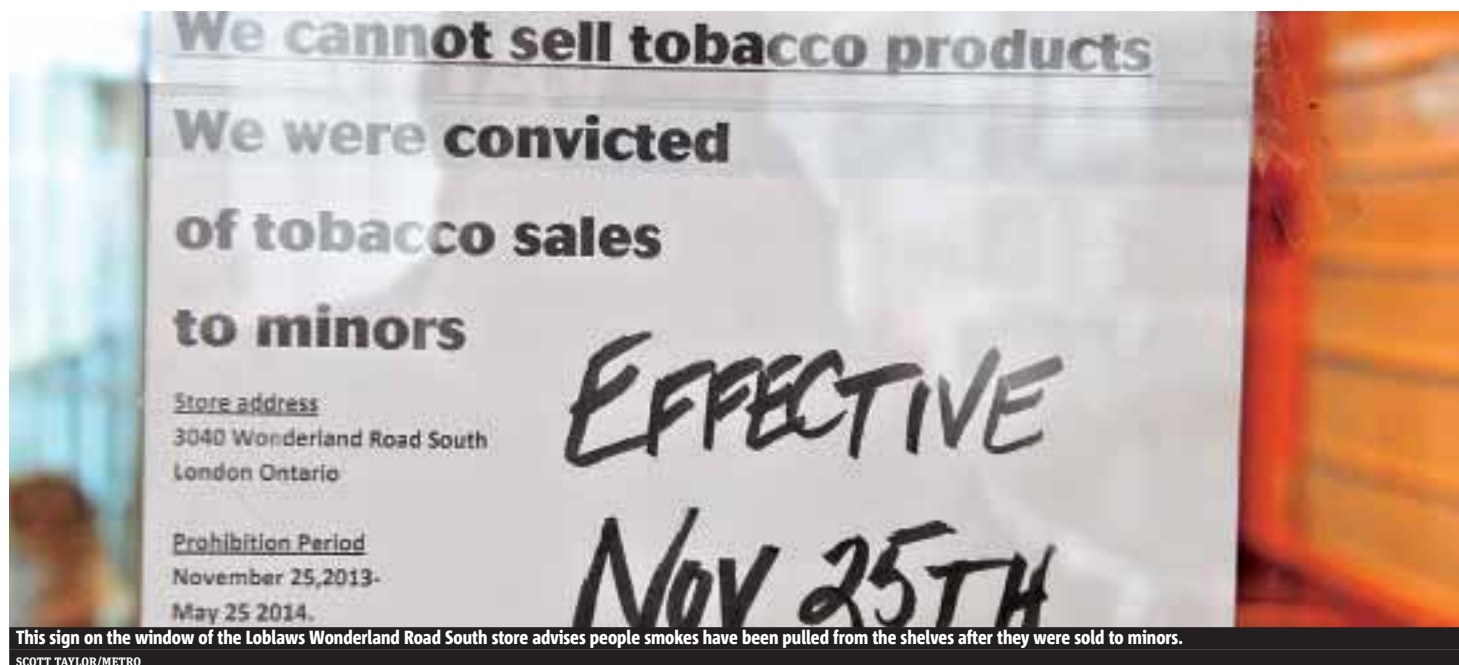
The budget won't be agreed until February.

More coverage, page 4

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This sign on the window of the Loblaws Wonderland Road South store advises people smokers have been pulled from the shelves after they were sold to minors.

SCOTT TAYLOR/METRO

Retailers get smoked out by undercover teenagers

Busted. Loblaws store on Wonderland Road South was slapped with a six-month ban for getting caught selling to minors twice in a five-year period



SCOTT TAYLOR
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That kid buying cigarettes? He's just doing his job.

He's undercover, and the merchant selling them is in for a surprise because the Middlesex-London Health Unit is about to ban the retailer from selling smokes to

anyone for a period of time. It's a heavy price to pay for selling cigarettes to minors, but some still do it.

The health unit employs five to eight teens who get paid to approach businesses and ask for smokes.

While they don't make busts all that often — only about four times a year on average — the health unit takes its mandate seriously.

Recently, the Loblaws store on Wonderland Road South was slapped with a six-month ban for getting caught selling to minors twice in a five-year period.

It certainly is one of the bigger names that's been nabbed and a spokesman vowed in an email to Metro that it won't happen again.

"We regret this inconven-

ience, but Loblaw takes tobacco regulations very seriously," the email reads. "Following this notice, we have reviewed all related policies, retrained all London colleagues, instituted a new policy to ID anyone under the age of 40 who is buying tobacco, and generally worked to better uphold the regulations."

Linda Stobo, the health unit's tobacco control manager, said health units across the province are mandated to enforce the provisions under the Smoke-Free Ontario Act.

"That includes conducting routine test shopping, or what we would call youth access checks with all of our vendors within our jurisdiction," she said. "We test shop all of the vendors a minimum of two times a year."

Quick facts

Selling smokes to minors

- Average local busts each year: 4
- Number of "test shoppers" used by the Middlesex-London Health Unit: 5 to 8
- Minimum number of times each businesses that sells tobacco is visited annually by test shoppers: 2

How the penalties stack up:

- Getting caught twice in a five-year period: Banned from selling tobacco for six months
- Getting caught three times: Nine-month ban
- Getting caught four times: One-year ban

Stobo takes no joy in catching those who are breaking the law. The health unit works hard to educate tobacco retailers, she said.

"We offer a minimum of

about 10 workshops a year. We reach out to and invite tobacco vendors and their staff to be trained about their obligations under the Smoke-Free Ontario Act."

Hudak calls for Matthews' job over Ornge scandal

Health Minister Deb Matthews should be fired for not reading an audit showing Ornge founder Dr. Chris Mazza received millions of taxpayer dollars for operating the air ambulance service, Tory Leader Tim Hudak says.

"I can't believe it," Hudak said Tuesday at Queen's Park.

Matthews admitted Monday that neither she nor her deputy health minister read the special audit received almost a year

ago and instead turned it over unopened to the OPP.

The Ornge affair — during which Mazza was paid \$9.3 million over six years — has dogged the Liberal government for years. The Ontario Provincial Police has an ongoing investigation into the air ambulance service.

"If I had a cabinet minister who was dealing with this type of scandal where somebody was ripping off taxpayers for

million of dollars and ... you don't read the audit, that minister would no longer serve in my cabinet. They would be out and so should Deb Matthews," Hudak said.

It is not the first time opposition critics have called for Matthews' head.

The Liberal government has consistently been criticized for its lack of oversight on several issues, including eHealth, Ornge and the \$1.1 billion gas

plants debacle.

Mazza, who is now an emergency room physician in Thunder Bay, was making far more than what was posted publicly on the Public Sector Disclosure list.

For example, according to the so-called sunshine list, Mazza was paid \$284,999 in 2006 but the internal Ornge accounting documents reveal it was actually \$869,354.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Health Minister Deb Matthews
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

Academic star. London's newest Rhodes scholar touts 'finding purpose'

A 2013 Western University graduate is one of 11 Canadians picked for the 2014 class of Rhodes Scholars.

Saumya Krishna, who studied health sciences as an undergraduate, has already been honoured for her academic achievements. She earned accolades from Western during spring convocation for having the highest grade-point average among her peers.

As a Rhodes scholar, she joins 21 other Western graduates dating back to 1931 who have earned two years of all-expenses-paid postgraduate study at Oxford University.

"I know a lot of responsibility comes with an opportunity, a privilege such as this," Krishna said. "I am still think-

ing about how to live up to it."

Along with being an outstanding student, Krishna has also proven herself outside the classroom. She was president of the student group Rebuilding Health in Rwanda, served as a facilitator with a violence-prevention program and was co-founder of a capital fund that offered early-stage financing to young social entrepreneurs.

"On a personal level, I think finding purpose is important," Krishna said. "My philosophy has been to regularly set goals that excite me and that can eventually contribute to public impact, and then put 200 per cent into achieving them — there is no substitute for discipline and hard work." **METRO**



Saumya Krishna CONTRIBUTED

Thames Valley District. New chair, vice-chair of school board named

There's a new trustee in charge of the Thames Valley District School Board.

Ruth Tisdale has been named chair of the board, replacing trustee Joyce Bennett who had held the post for two consecutive terms.

Tisdale has represented wards 1, 11, 12 and 14 in London since 2006 and previously served as the board's vice-chair and chair of the

audit committee. She's also served a variety of other posts, including those involving the budget and negotiations.

Oxford trustee Graham Hart, who represents an area that includes Ingersoll and Woodstock, has been named the board's vice-chair.

The changes were made during a special meeting on Monday. **METRO**

Classes Without Quizzes

Impact of environmental changes focus of free lecture series

Environmental changes and their effect on indigenous peoples around the globe will be in the spotlight Thursday at Western University.

Chantelle Richmond, director of the school's In-

igenous Health Lab, will be the presenter in this month's instalment of Classes Without Quizzes.

The free lecture series gives people a chance to learn from leading figures at Western without paying tuition.

Thursday's lecture starts at 7 p.m. with doors opening at 6:30 p.m. People are asked to register in advance at classeswithoutquizzes.uwo.ca. **METRO**



Can you outdo this crew? The cast of Storage Wars Canada will be bidding on London goods on Wednesday during a visit to Airport Road Self Storage. COURTESY OLN

Hey, big spenders

Let the bidding begin! Storage Wars Canada set for London battle Wednesday



SCOTT TAYLOR
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It's the ultimate all-or-nothing game, and it's being filmed Wednesday in London.

Storage Wars Canada will bring all of its lights, cameras, action and cash to Airport Road Self Storage on Scanlon Road to film an episode for its second season.

If you've never seen the

show or the original U.S. Storage Wars, it goes something like this: A storage unit that's long past due in payment goes up for sale to the highest bidder, but no one really knows what's inside of it.

Airport Road Self Storage site manager Jon Cameron says things will play out there just like they do at other sites: The lock gets cut and the door is opened on available units, but the closest anyone can get before bidding on the potential treasure is a good look from afar.

There's no touching, no opening of luggage of boxes and no stepping inside.

Selling off someone's possessions may sound cold-

The cast

- Roy Dirnbeck, "The Instigator"
- Ursula Stolf, "The Knock Out"
- Cindy Hayden and Rick Coffill, "The Veterans"
- Paul and Bogart Kenny, "The High Roller and The Kid"

to get hold of them. We make our phone calls, we send our collection letters, we send certified, registered letters out," he said. "We try to get people in here to make the payments on them. Some of them are 130 days past due."

There's still time for anyone who might have a unit they forgot about to pay up before the games begin at 2 p.m.

"You have until the minute it's auctioned to pay for it," Cameron said Tuesday. "Right now, I have 10 available for the show."

The auction is scheduled for 2 to 4 p.m. and anyone can register as a bidder. Cameron will take any type of payment except cheques.

hearted, but Cameron said his company does everything it can to reach people before it happens.

"We do our due diligence

Juno nominee to lead carolling concert



Elizabeth Shepherd
COURTESY CHRISTOPHER WADSWORTH

The Salvation Army is bringing in a Juno Award nominee to help boost this year's Festival of Carols at Centennial Hall.

Signer/songwriter Elizabeth Shepherd will be the featured guest at the Monday concert slated for 7:30 p.m. at Centennial Hall.

Shepherd will be joined by the First-St. Andrews United Church Choir, the

Salvation Army London Citadel Band and the London Citadel Timbrels.

The annual concert is the Sally Ann's way of "showing our appreciation to the people of London for all of their support throughout the year, and especially at Christmas," said Perron Goodyear, the non-profit's spokesman.

During the event, organ-

izers will present the Jack Burghardt Award of Excellence. The award is given annually to someone who has the same spirit as the late Burghardt, a news broadcaster, politician and minister.

Donations of non-perishable food items or new toys will be accepted at the door. All proceeds will go toward the Salvation Army's Christmas campaign. **METRO**

These charges are outrageous: Mayor on police budget request

An awful big ticket.

Police and fire looking for millions more in next year's budget



MIKE DONACHIE

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Mayor Joe Fontana gave a big "no" to police on Tuesday.

Police Chief Brad Duncan has said the city needs to increase his budget by 3.3 per cent or risk losing 35 cops.

The issue was literally at the top of the list as the city started its 2014 budget deliberations, and the mayor was frank.

"I understand their challenges," said Fontana. "I understand the incredible work they do ... but that is not a starting model for property taxes."

He was referring to the 3.1 per cent tax hike in the budget proposal from city staff. Fontana wasted no time in saying he would not accept it as tabled.

"I'm telling you right now ... my starting point is not 3.1."

Funding hike requests

- Police: 3.3 per cent
- Fire: 4 per cent
- London Transit Commission: 2.4 per cent
- London Public Library: 1.8 per cent
- London-Middlesex Housing Corp.: 2.7 per cent

He singled out requested funding increases from police and fire as unacceptable.

The budget as tabled would cost the owner of an average home — valued at \$208,000 — \$76 more next year. About a third of that increase would go to fulfill the requests from fire-fighters and police officers.

But Coun. Paul Hubert took another view.

"Saying zero per cent to the police at this juncture means no cops on the streets," he said. "It means no cops in the schools."



It's here — the city's all-important budget document. MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

Yo ho ho and a bottle of glue



One of the teams at H. B. Beal Secondary School with their cardboard craft. From left: Cherry Zong, Irene Hua, Qi Qi and Lina Wang. MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

There was cardboard and tape everywhere, but nobody minded.

Kids from across the province were eagerly snipping, sticking and designing cardboard boats Tuesday for a challenge at H.B. Beal Secondary School.

The boat-building contest has been running for more than 20 years, and every year there are more students ready to take it on.

The idea, says organizer Skills Ontario, is to encourage young people to discover their passion for ideas and creativity as the province tries to deal with a skills shortage.

So dozens of young people gathered in teams of four to spend the morning creating boats from cardboard, tape

and glue. Then, they spent several stressful seconds in the school pool, finding out if their creations floated.

Some didn't, but that wasn't the point. They were expected to sink, but the building process was all about getting brains working on solving problems.

"It's a fun, yet practical way for youth across the province to work together and discover that they may have an interest in design or the skilled trades and technologies in general," said Gail Smyth, executive director of Skills Canada — Ontario.

The nonprofit organization works to promote the skilled trades and technologies as viable career options for young people.

MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

Quick, tape up the mizzenmast!

"It's a fun, yet practical way for youth across the province to work together and discover that they may have an interest in design or the skilled trades."

Gail Smyth, executive director of Skills Canada — Ontario

Justice hearing

Wynne rejects blame for driving up gas-plant costs

Premier Kathleen Wynne is disputing opposition charges that she was at least partly to blame for driving up the cost of cancelling gas plants in Oakville and Mississauga to \$1.1 billion.

The NDP say Wynne's signature on a cabinet document promising to make TransCanada Enterprises "whole" severely weakened the province's negotiating position with the developer of the Oakville plant.

Wynne — making her second appearance Tuesday at justice committee hearings into the scandal — says she was advised that a lawsuit could have been an even more expensive option than negotiating a new deal with TransCanada.

The premier also denied originally low-balling the cost estimates, saying there were lots of figures being bandied about so she asked the auditor general to determine the real figures.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Dogs show students how to chill out

Rockstar the dog gets a warm welcome from students this week at Fanshawe College. ARF K9 ambassadors have been helping Fanshawe students relax at the student union as exams kick into high gear. The program also takes dogs to visit sick children and into schools. MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

Doomed Lac-Mégantic train rolled through London before blast

Report. New legislation will force railways to inform cities about dangerous cargo



SCOTT TAYLOR
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The train that derailed and exploded in Lac-Mégantic, killing 47 people, barrelled through London on its way to Quebec, according to a report from AM980.

But when it passed, no one was the wiser. Dave O'Brien, the city's security and emergency manager, said the train's cargo went by unnoticed because until recently railways only had to share that information when it was requested.

That changed last month,

when the federal government forced railways to inform municipalities what dangerous goods they were shipping.

O'Brien said all Canadian Class 1 railways, which includes CP and CN, now have to provide cargo information to the emergency-planning official in each city a train crosses.

That will help first-responders, city management and hospitals know how to prepare for emergencies.

While the information has been available by request, O'Brien said it will now be furnished every three months to help municipalities know what to expect.

"It looks like we're going to get it quarterly each year, and it'll enhance our ability to communicate and work co-operatively with the railways and allow us in advance to prepare for those goods of concern

Gaining foresight

"Knowing what to prepare for will help us to adapt our training."

Dave O'Brien, London's security and emergency manager

travelling through our municipality," he said.

City officials still won't know which trains are carrying what cargo before they're long gone, but the quarterly reports will help to hone training for what will be coming, he added.

"We have recently in the last couple of years done a full-scale exercise involving a rail incident, and I'm sure we'll be looking at another review and exercise regarding that," O'Brien said. "Knowing what to prepare for will help us to adapt our training."

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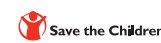
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Reform. Legislation aims to crack down on daycares

Ontario is tightening provincial rules governing unregulated daycare businesses and throwing the book at those that flout the law.

Under the Child Care Modernization Act, introduced Tuesday, the province would be able to immediately close a daycare where children are at risk.

The act would also allow ministry officials to levy penalties of up to \$100,000 per infraction against caregivers running illegal daycares.

Maximum fines would rise from \$2,000 to \$250,000 under the proposed act.

If the legislation is enacted, ministry officials would no longer have to go to court to issue fines or shutter an illegal daycare.

"When parents drop their children off for child care, they want to know they're in a safe nurturing environment, regardless of whether they are in licensed or unlicensed care," Education Minister Liz Sandals said in a statement.

The proposed legislation would also take away the financial incentive of remain-

Why now?

- The Child Care Modernization Act is in response to the death of three young children in unregulated Toronto-area home daycares since last July.
- One of the homes in Vaughan was illegally caring for 27 children when police and emergency services arrived.
- The Ministry of Education later admitted that it had neglected to follow up on four complaints about the home.

ing unregulated. Under the act, anyone providing care for more than five children under age 10 — including their own children — would require a licence.

It means unregulated caregivers will no longer be able to exclude their own children in the maximum number of kids allowed, Sandals said in an interview.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Lotto. Woman wins \$50M despite losing her ticket

A Hamilton woman who lost her winning \$50-million lottery ticket last year is on the verge of getting her prize after an extensive investigation.

The CEO of the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation says Kathryn Jones' case is "one of the most unique in OLG's history."

OLG says Jones bought a ticket at a Shoppers Drug Mart in Cambridge last year, which turned out to have the jackpot numbers from the Nov. 30, 2012, Lotto Max draw.

OLG received more than 435 inquiries since that draw and in the process of reviewing them, it determined that Jones, who is a regular lottery player, had the winning ticket.

When Jones wasn't able to find her ticket, OLG carried out its "Lost Ticket Prize Claim" process to ensure she was the rightful winner.

That investigation included interviews with Jones, using the OLG transactions database to verify her purchase, checking surveillance video that showed her buying the \$16 ticket, and refer-



Kathryn Jones COURTESY OLG

encing her credit card statements.

OLG also found out that Jones had a sister who owns a retail outlet in Ottawa that sells OLG tickets, a finding that prompted an additional review of her win by an independent third party, which found no issues.

OLG says the prize will now be held for a minimum of 30 days and if there are no additional valid claims on the \$50 million, Jones will get her winnings.

Jones says she is still in shock and "very grateful" that OLG approached her over her prize.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Coun. Joni Baechler was among those who welcomed a new agreement with Middlesex County on funding key services during Tuesday's council meeting at city hall. MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

City, county reach funding agreement

Shared service costs. London avoids arguments after talks with Middlesex leaders



MIKE DONACHIE
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It might have looked a little dicey at times, but London has made friends with the neighbours.

Tuesday night's council meeting saw friendly words exchanged with the County of Middlesex's warden, Brad Richards, and the announcement of an agreement.

During the summer, the municipalities went through mediation talks on funding social housing, land ambulance, child care and Ontario Works services, using money provided by the province.

If the issue had gone to court — and at one point that seemed possible — it

would have been costly for taxpayers in both areas. So, everybody was pleased that had been avoided, despite London having to pay the county, as part of the deal, more than \$900,000 for services in 2011 and 2012.

"I think we worked hard to come up with something that was fair and equitable for both parties," said Coun. Joni Baechler, who took part in the talks.

This is the agreement: Child care and Ontario works

costs will be shared "based on the formula of actual costs and program expenditures."

Social housing and land ambulance are based on a new deal including, for the first time, actual costs. Before, they were entirely based on a "weighted assessment," taking into account property-tax evaluations.

Follow Mike Donachie on Twitter @Mike_Donachie



Inclusivity-award winners get congrats

Efforts to make sure everyone in London is properly respected were recognized by city council Tuesday night.

The winners of London's first Diversity, Race Relations and Inclusivity Awards were at the council meeting to be congratulated.

They included indigenous-services staff at Western University, with a representative saying "thank you" in three indigenous languages from the London area.

There was also Eddy Phimprachanh, owner of Club Lavish, which won the award for small business.

The other winners were Rogers TV in the large-business category and LUSO Community Services, the London Cross Cultural Learner Centre and the South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre for social and community service and youth groups.

"It is a great pleasure to pay tribute to you today," said Mayor Joe Fontana. "Your passion and achievements reflect what is good and fair in our city."

To find out more about the awards, visit london.ca/DRRIaward.

MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

Acid attack lands Russian ballet star in jail for six years

Bolshoi. Attack on ballet's director exposes vicious backstage bickering and intrigue at renowned theatre

A judge pronounced Bolshoi soloist Pavel Dmitrichenko guilty of making plans to attack Sergei Filin, the theatre's director who lost most of the sight in one eye and 20 per cent in the other in the attack on Jan. 17.

Ex-convict Yuri Zarutsky, who splashed the acid in Filin's face, was sentenced to 10 years; a driver, Andrei Lipatov, got four years. The three were also ordered to pay 3.5 million rubles (about \$112,000) in damages to Filin.

The dancer said during the



Dancer Pavel Dmitrichenko stands inside a barred enclosure at court in Moscow on Tuesday. ALEXANDER ZEMLIANICHENKO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

trial that he had agreed to Zarutsky's offer to beat up Filin, but claimed that he had been unaware of his intention to use acid for the attack. He pleaded

not guilty but admitted "moral responsibility."

Dmitrichenko said he was shocked when he heard about the acid attack in the news and told Zarutsky they should surrender to the police. He testified that Zarutsky told him to keep silent and threatened to launch a similar attack on Dmitrichenko's ballerina girlfriend if he went to the police.

He said he had told Zarutsky that he disapproved of Filin's management style. He insisted that he always said Filin had been an excellent dancer, but he blamed him in part for the negative atmosphere in the theatre. He cited several incidents in which troupe members were driven to tears during heated conflicts with Filin.

Filin did not deny the incidents but retorted that it was simply part of the "artistic process." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Germany

New software detects banned neo-Nazi music

German police say they have developed software that can automatically identify banned neo-Nazi music.

Certain extremist music is banned from public sale or performance in Germany, but the far-right still regularly attempts to skirt the regulations with concerts to attract and recruit young people.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Los Angeles

First traffic citation given to Google Glass user

A woman has pleaded not guilty to a traffic citation alleging the motorist was using Google's computer-in-an-eyeglass.

Cecilia Abadie was pulled over on suspicion of speeding and the officer tacked on a citation usually given to drivers who may be distracted by a video screen.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Thai government tries to diffuse violent protests

A Thai policeman offers a rose to protesters outside city police headquarters in Bangkok on Tuesday. Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra ordered police to stop battling anti-government protesters in what has become a struggle to topple Yingluck and keep her brother, Thaksin Shinawatra, from returning to power. Thaksin was ousted in a 2006 military coup, and Yingluck's rivals have accused her of being his puppet. The conflict has killed four people and wounded more than 256 in the last three days alone. **MANISH SWARUP/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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Reform Act gets thumbs-up

Bill to give MPs more power. Grits and NDP say they would support Conservative MP's bill

A Conservative MP's provocative new bill to rebalance power between MPs and party leaders has gotten an early thumbs-up from the NDP and the Liberals.

With a number of Michael Chong's Tory colleagues already supportive, the measure could have serious legislative legs.

Among other things, the bill would give party caucuses the explicit right to review and oust their leaders.

Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau tweeted Tuesday that he shared the goals of Chong's proposed Reform Act of 2013.

NDP reform critic Craig Scott said he will personally support the bill and MPs in his party will be allowed a free vote on the legislation.

He said his leader, Tom Mulcair, "wants a system that's fair, where prime ministers actually don't have the kinds of levers

of power that have been abused under Stephen Harper and have been used in ways that frankly aren't all that justified by previous prime ministers."

Chong is a moderate, popular Ontario MP with a long history of promoting stronger responsible government.

Conservative supporters included Alberta MP James Rajotte, Ontario MPs Larry Miller and Stella Amble and Ontario Sen. Hugh Segal.

Green Party Leader Elizabeth May and Independent

MP Bruce Hyer rounded out the cheering section.

"It depends on whether Mr. Trudeau and Mr. Mulcair will allow their caucuses to vote for democracy," May said of the bill's prospects.

A Conservative source estimated that up to a quarter of the caucus could back Chong's proposals.

Chong argues that these rights have always existed by convention, but have not been exercised for decades.

The legislation would not come into effect until after the 2015 election.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

How it works

Reform Act's nuts & bolts

The bill has three components. It would give party caucuses in the Commons the right to vote to review the party leader and to trigger a leadership race.

As well, the bill would entrench in the Parliament of Canada Act the right of a caucus to review, eject and readmit MPs.

They would also have the right to elect and eject their caucus chair.

The third part of the bill would give electoral district associations the power to approve electoral candidates. Nomination papers would no longer require a leader's signature.

These measures would theoretically embolden MPs to vote as they want in the Commons, without fear of being turfed from caucus.

Education. Canadian teens' scores in math, science take a nosedive

A new international study ranks Canadian students among the top of the class in key subject areas, but there has been a noticeable decline over the years in math and science scores among the country's pupils.

Canada was among 65 countries and economies participating in the assessment by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, which takes place every three years. Findings of the OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment from 2012 were released Tuesday.

The average estimated score in math was 494. Canada had 518. Shanghai, China topped the list in math with an average of 613. Canada was also outperformed by Singapore, Hong Kong, Chinese Taipei, Korea, Macau, Japan, Liechtenstein and Switzerland.

Canada had an average

Measuring up

Canada was among the high-level achievers, however:

- Performance in math has declined, with a 14-point dip in the past nine years.
- Decline in science performance since 2006 was "statistically significant."

score of 523 in reading and 525 in science — well above the OECD averages of 496 and 501, respectively.

Shanghai topped the list in both reading and science with 570 and 580, respectively. Canada was outperformed in both subjects by Hong Kong, Singapore, Japan and Korea.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Sleep-deprived Dallaire dozes off at the wheel on the Hill

Sen. Romeo Dallaire nodded off at the wheel of his BMW and crashed into a traffic barrier on Parliament Hill Tuesday. Dallaire said news last week of three suicides of Canadian soldiers, coupled with the coming 20th anniversary of the Rwanda genocide, have left him unable to sleep. "I am very thankful that nobody was injured or worse by my not being more attentive to the level of fatigue that I have been experiencing," he said in an apology. JENNIFER DITCHBURN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Miraculous save

Dramatic rescue from sunken boat goes viral

A video from last May, in which divers looking for bodies in a sunken ship find a Nigerian cook who had been trapped alive for three days, is now on YouTube.

Harrison Odjegba Okene, who was in an air bubble in the sunken boat, survived off just one bottle of Coke, all he had to sustain him during the trauma. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Don't ask, he won't tell

Marion Barry mum on Ford

Don't you dare compare the former crack-smoking mayor of the U.S. capital to Rob Ford, the crack-smoking current mayor of Toronto.

Marion Barry doesn't appreciate it. In fact, he becomes quite irate when asked about Ford.

"I'm not talking about that," Barry said, walking away from a Canadian reporter Tuesday during a break at a D.C. council meeting. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Corruption

Fifth arrest in SNC-Lavalin case

The RCMP announced another arrest in connection with their probe into Canadian engineering giant SNC-Lavalin and a bridge contract in Bangladesh.

The RCMP said Zulfikar Ali Bhuiyan, who holds both Bangladeshi and Canadian citizenship, has been charged with one count under the Corruption of Foreign Public Officials Act.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Yeah, I'm going to need you to stay home on Saturday

A case of the Mondays.

Bosses are forcing staff to put down the TPS reports and BlackBerrys in a bid to fight burnout

Volkswagen turns off some employees' email 30 minutes after their shifts end. Goldman Sachs is urging junior staff to take weekends off. BMW is planning new rules that will keep workers from being contacted after hours.

This surge in corporate beneficence isn't an indication that employers are becoming kinder and gentler: It's about the bottom line. After years in which the ease of instant communication via email and smartphones allowed bosses to place greater and greater demands on white-collar workers, some companies are beginning to set limits, recognizing that successful employees must be able to escape from work.

"Industry is now responding," said Cary Cooper, a professor of organizational psychology and health at Lancaster University, who says the imperative to be constantly reachable by iPhone or tablet is taking a toll on the work delivered at the office. "Employees are turning up, but they're not delivering anything."

After seeing colleagues lose their jobs during the Great Recession, workers are more inclined to come in to work, even when sick, surveys show. After hours, physical presence is replaced by the next best thing — a virtual one. Many employees fear switching off, instead



Shirin Majid, left, watches as her husband plays with their nine-month-old daughter at home in New York. Majid works for an internet startup, which has a "blackout" week for workers when they are forbidden to work. BEBETO MATTHEWS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

deciding to work on vacation, during dinner and in bed with the help of smart phones, laptops and tablet computers.

People also have more data than ever to process — whether they ask for it or not. Information overload cost American businesses just under \$1 trillion US in employee time lost to needless emails and other distractions in 2010, according to Jonathan Spira, chief analyst of the New York research firm, Basex. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

A quirky solution

To get everyone, from intern to CEO, to not overdo it with the work hours, some companies have resorted to bolder measures.

- Quirky, a New York based start-up which shepherds inventions to the marketplace, has instituted a "blackout" week once a quarter during which no one except customer service representa-

tives are allowed to work, lest employees be tempted to check email.

- And having the message come right from the top was important for Shirin Majid, the company's 39-year-old head of digital marketing, who laments not having enough time to spend with her husband and 9 month-old daughter, Ella.

War of the words. It's selfie versus science in battle for ultimate word of the year

Look alive, selfie. There's another word of the year that's not all about you.

While Oxford University Press, the British publisher of the Oxford dictionaries, declared those little smartphone self-portraits its winner last month, the folks at Merriam-Webster announced "science" on Tuesday.

Oxford tracked a huge jump in overall usage of selfie, but Merriam-Webster stuck primarily to look-ups on its website, recording a 176 per cent increase for science when compared with last year.

John Morse, president and publisher of Merriam-Webster Inc., said science



Merriam-Webster picked a word for the nerds, while Oxford's appeals to the popular set. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

is connected to broad cultural oppositions — science versus faith, for instance — along with the power of observation and intuition, reason and ideology, evidence and tradition.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Science is always lurking

"The more we thought about it, the righter it seemed in that it does lurk behind a lot of big stories that we as a society are grappling with, whether it's climate change or environmental regulation or what's in our textbooks."

John Morse, president and publisher of Merriam-Webster Inc., based in Springfield, Mass.

Motor City stalled

Detroit eligible for bankruptcy: Judge

Detroit is eligible to shed billions in debt in the largest public bankruptcy in U.S. history, a judge said Tuesday in a long-awaited decision.

Judge Steven Rhodes turned down objections from unions, pension funds and retirees, which, like other creditors, could lose under any plan to solve \$18 billion US in long-term liabilities. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Market Minute

DOLLAR
93.91¢ (-0.07¢)

TSX
13,319.87 (-99.70)

OIL
\$96.04 US (+\$2.22)

GOLD
\$1,220.80 (-\$1.10)

Natural gas: \$3.98 US (no change)
Dow Jones: 15,914.62 (-94.15)



TELL US YOUR TOP PICKS OF 2013

- Join the Metropolitan Panel to participate in our survey December 6th - 8th and share your favourites of 2013
- Results will be highlighted at the end of December in Metro!
- Plus, one lucky Metropolitan Panel member will **WIN a Samsung Galaxy Tablet!**
- For details on how to participate and win go to **clubmetro.com**

Metropolitan
Panel

HELLO DRONES, RIP PIZZA-MAN PORN

Amazon Czar Jeff Bezos, overstimulated perhaps by CyberMonday, has come with what is either the best — or the worst — idea ever.

The man who sells everything everywhere to everyone proposes to use flying mini-drones to deliver packages to customers within 30 minutes, wherever they are.

Still in the virtual stage, it will be years before the bot turns up at your door seeking your signature, but we need to get ready.

I mean, there are questions to be answered.

Do you tip a drone? Seeing as they're not working their way through drone school or supporting a family of dronettes, it probably won't be necessary. But you want to make sure. Just ask the Taliban what happens when there's an angry drone at the door.

Will drones still leave those illegible notes behind? You



JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

know the ones scolding you for not being there at the drone's convenience and advising you to pick up your package at (can you read this?) at (is that between 9 and 5 or 5 and 9?)

Or, because they are programmed to hunt down your DNA, will they find you wherever you are even if you don't want to be found? Even if you really want the new 50 Shades of Grey Concordance, maybe you don't want it right now. On the toilet.

The delivery drone can be adapted for other uses. Pizza for instance. The drone is the perfect technology to get it to your door within 30 minutes or you eat for free. Of course, you'll never eat for free, as the drone

can be programmed to get there in precisely 29.99 minutes every time. I'm not sure why they'd want to do that, but that's what happens now and it seems to work for the pizza

delivery companies.

Added note: For some reason, the pizza delivery man occupies a special place in the annals of pornography. This would be the end of that. Tough to make out with the pizza man if he turns up sporting eight whirling rotors, like the Amazon prototype. There could be flying pepperoni ... at least.

That's hardly the most sinister adaptation of delivery drone technology. These things are essentially CCTV cameras with wings. If they can send one into space (like the Hubble telescope) to track down galaxies 14 billion light years away, they can find you at the neighbourhood pub.

Or delivering your neighbour's pizza.

You see, the more you think about this, the more you realize there are bugs that have to be ironed out. Bezos hopes to get his little bots airborne as early as 2015, but I suspect it will be a sunny day in Seattle before it happens.

Er, be right back. There's someone...or something...at the door.

ZOOM

Freaks of nature



Bizarre animals revealed in book

They may not have the 'Aww' factor of, say, pandas or sea otters, but these unique animals still deserve our attention.

A cynipid wasp and a sea slug called a nudibranch feature in *Animal Earth*, a new book that celebrates the weird and wonderful diversity on our planet. **METRO**

By the numbers

200M

The number of species of animals that are still undiscovered, according to zoologist and author of *Animal Earth*, Ross Piper. "We know a great deal more about the surfaces of barren moons in space than we do about our own planet. There are so many fascinating animals around us, and we haven't gotten to grips even the tiniest bit with how they live," he said.

More numbers

- **Unknown world.** 86 per cent of all species on land and 91 per cent of those in the seas have yet to be discovered, described and catalogued, according to a 2011 study.
- **Drop in the ocean.** Due to the abundance of life on our planet, the IUCN Red List — the most sophisticated ongoing project of studying threatened animals — monitors less than one per cent of the world's species.



TOMAS RAK, ALEXANDER SEMENOV/ANIMAL EARTH/THAMES & HUDSON

Photog says:

"Sea slugs possess every colour and shape combination imaginable — they are one of the most vibrant groups in the sea."



Alexander Semenov, 28, photographer and zoologist at the White Sea Biological Station in Karelia, Russia

Clickbait



HANNAH ZITNER
hannah.zitner@metronews.ca

As shoppers digest the announcement/confession/stunt that Amazon hopes to have flying robots deliver their goods, we take a look at other (real and not-so-real) drone delivery services:

TacoCopter:

Unveiled at tech conference Disrupt SF back in September, the TacoCopter was aerial robot designer Skycatch's answer to Californians' need for instant delicious Mexican food.

DomiCopter:

You guessed it. Domino's goes drone with the DomiCopter.

Oppikoppi music festival beer drop:

Since you can't have tacos or pizza without beer, there's a drone drop for that too. South Africa's Oppikoppi festival used GPS-guided drones to



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION:
DAVID VAN DYKE/METRO

help music-lovers avoid long lines at the beer tent and drop cold brews to the parched brus.

Twitter

Merriam-Webster say searches for the word 'science' are up 176 per cent this year. What's the explanation for this?

@Ptwhog: The explanation is rooted in the confusion that exists over good & bad science as well as the politics of science. Climate change, fracking, pipelines, hydro development, Chris Hadfield, etc have all generated interest in science

@ommoran: Explanation? Students no longer sure what the word "science" means and having to "Google it".

@deekes11: I'm thinkin Breaking Bad has something to do with it #heisenberg

@AliciaMarie_09 maybe some awesome parents are showing girls there is more to life than twerking/selfies. Brains are sexy too!

@likeibother 176% is not a huge jump. It's actually just more than double. And it's taken from their own search web only

@myomichu Science sensationalized and turned into entertainment. Good for education but sometimes borderline fiction.

@cailiey I would bet @SarcasticRover has an idea why...he's currently doing a science on the red planet...

@LeosBandwagon isn't the answer clearly "science" itself #scienceisalwayssteanswer

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU:
Send us your comments: londonletters@metronews.ca

A happy holiday accident: How Love Actually left a starry legacy

Cast of thousands. As Richard Curtis notes, even the then-lesser-known actors in his 2003 romantic comedy are now major stars



NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Richard Curtis swears he didn't set out to make a Christmas classic with *Love Actually* — which just turned 10 years old — but that's what exactly happened. "I didn't really think that when I was writing the film. I certainly didn't think, 'This is a cunning commercial measure.' I just thought it was in the spirit of the film," Curtis tells Metro.

"Particularly in the States, I think it's become a Christmas thing. I think it's just kind of on a loop on some English TV stations (year-round), but I think it's become more of a Christmas thing. And it's delightful. I think you consider it lucky. I feel that a little bit about *Love Actually*, that I wrote a multi-thing movie, and because it was a Christmas one it looks like it's going to last."

What Curtis finds particularly entertaining is what's become of the film's massive cast, originally built as a mix of big stars (Hugh Grant, Emma



Hugh Grant, as the British prime minister, and Martine McCutcheon, as his assistant, at a Christmas pageant in Richard Curtis' 2003 romantic comedy *Love Actually*. PETER MOUNTAIN/UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

Thompson) and lesser-known faces (Chiwetel Ejiofor, Andrew Lincoln).

"It now seems over-cast because half the cast weren't very well-known (at the time), only if you really watched English telly," he says. "And now with Martin Freeman being the Hobbit and with (Lincoln on) *The Walking Dead* and with January Jones on *Mad Men* and Chiwetel now I hope going to win an Oscar this year, the movie's looking increasingly unbalanced. There was meant to be a balance between people you knew and people you didn't. Even Thomas Sangster, who played the little boy, is now on *Game of Thrones*."

In that spirit, here's a look at what the ensemble of *Love Actually* have been up to lately.

The Prime Minister and Natalie

Hugh Grant: Currently filming *The Man from U.N.C.L.E.* for Guy Ritchie, Grant was last seen playing several nasty characters in *Cloud Atlas* and taking on Rupert Murdoch in the News of the World phone-hacking scandal.

Martine McCutcheon: A familiar face with U.K. audiences when the film premiered thanks to her work on *EastEnders*, McCutcheon will next be seen in the TV movie *The Home Office*.

Daniel and Sam

Liam Neeson: The esteemed Irish actor reinvented himself with 2008's *Taken* and has now become one of the most successful — if unlikely — action stars in the world.

Thomas Brodie-Sangster: The 23-year-old has grown up on TV and movie screens, with roles in *Doctor Who* and *Nowhere Boy*, and currently stars as Jojen Reed on *Game of Thrones*.

Jamie and Aurelia

Colin Firth: Already a fan favorite at the time thanks to *Pride and Prejudice* and *Bridget Jones's Diary*, the very busy Firth is now an Oscar winner for *The King's Speech*.

Lúcia Moniz: The Portuguese actress and singer has been working steadily on TV in her home country, most recently on *Bem-Vindos a Beirais*.

Harry, Karen and Mia

Emma Thompson: The actress with the most heartbreaking and memorable scene in *Love Actually* is also earning plenty of Oscar buzz for this year's *Saving Mr. Banks*.

Alan Rickman: Forever known to a generation of fans as Professor Snape in the *Harry Potter* series, Rickman recently starred as Ronald Reagan in *Lee Daniels' The Butler* and N.Y.C. nightlife guru Hilly Kristal in *CBGB* and will next take on King Louis XIV in *A Little Chaos*.

Heike Makatsch: The German actress has been working steadily in Europe for the past decade and can be seen in theatres now in *The Book Thief*.

Peter, Juliet and Mark

Keira Knightley: Already a star on the rise 10 years ago, Knightley is now an Oscar nominee who can next be seen in *Can a Song Save Your Life?* and *Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit*.

Chiwetel Ejiofor: After years of under-the-radar supporting roles, Ejiofor is a Best Actor hopeful this year for the powerful *12 Years a Slave*.

Andrew Lincoln: Lincoln went relatively unnoticed for years until taking the lead role in TV's *The Walking Dead*, now in its fourth season.

For Out of the Furnace, Bale morphs once more



IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

Christian Bale likes to keep you guessing. The intense actor, who became a superstar playing Batman, makes chancy career choices on purpose.

"I like to think that as long as you continue choosing diverse roles, you can avoid becoming predictable," he says.

He could make a life (and a fortune) playing square-jawed superheroes in action movies, but instead chooses to shake things up.

Since his breakthrough performance in 1987's *Empire of the Sun* he has been a chameleon, losing sixty pounds to play the skeletal lead in *The Machinist* and gaining a beer gut

and a comb-over for an upcoming role in *American Hustle*.

This weekend in *Out of the Furnace* he changes it up once again. He stars as a steel mill worker pushed to extremes when his Iraq war veteran brother (Casey Affleck) gets mixed up with the wrong people and disappears.

The vengeance angle sounds Batmanesque, but *Out of the Furnace* is set far away from Gotham in the economically-depressed Rust Belt. There isn't a cowl or a cape in sight, and Bale has once again physically transformed himself.

Here's a look at how Bale physically changes it up for his movie roles.

American Psycho

Creating the "Olympian physique" of serial killer Patrick Bateman in *American Psycho*

took some discipline. "I'm English," he said, "and in England, we don't have many gyms around. We'd rather go to a pub instead." A trainer and a protein diet took off the pounds.

The Fighter

As boxer and former drug addict Dicky Eklund in *The Fighter* he dropped thirty pounds and used make-up and prosthetics to age himself. How did he lose the weight? "Usually I always say, 'Oh, I do a lot of coke whenever I lose weight.' I'm not sure if it's so funny for this movie, to say that." In reality he trained with the real-life Eklund and boxed the pounds off.

Velvet Goldmine

In *Velvet Goldmine* he plays a London journalist looking into the life and faked death of glam



Christian Bale, left, and Casey Affleck in a scene from *Out of the Furnace*. KERRY HAYES/RELATIVITY MEDIA

rock singer Brian Slade (Jonathan Rhys Meyers). Once again he had to physically transform, but not in the traditional way.

When his mom saw that he was working out and running at 6 a.m. she said, "Christian, what are you doing? You're do-

ing a film about sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll. Why don't you do it the way they did it? They weren't out running. They drank a helluva lot and lived unhealthily."

"I took that to heart," he says, "and it works."

2 SCENE



George Clooney. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

George Clooney hasn't found the right woman

It turns out George Clooney just hasn't met the right woman yet. As part of a questionnaire by artist Tracey Emin used for a "text portrait" of the actor in *W* magazine, Clooney was asked who the love of his life is or was, and his response?

"I haven't met her yet." But don't feel too bad for Clooney, as the hard-working actor has at least managed to find a way to avoid home-

sickness.

"I spend eight months a year in a one-bedroom hotel room in a city I probably wouldn't vacation in," he says.

"But no city, no space fails to be a home if your family and friends can find the time to visit. I get desperately, depressingly homesick if I can't find a way to be near the people that bring joy wherever they go."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



Walker died on a 'hot spot for street racers,' say police

While the neighbourhood where *Fast & Furious* star Paul Walker died in a fiery crash is known to attract street racers, law enforcement officials do not believe the Porsche he and a friend were riding in had been racing another car.

Accident investigators "have received eyewitness statements that the car involved was travelling alone at a high rate of speed," the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department said in a statement Monday. "No eyewitness has contacted the (department) to say there was a second vehicle."

Walker and his friend and fellow fast-car enthusiast Roger Rodas died Saturday when Rodas' 2005 Porsche Carrera GT smashed into a light pole and tree, then exploded in flames. The posted limit was 45 m.p.h. (about 72 km/h).

The two had taken what

was expected to be a brief drive away from a charity fundraiser and toy drive at Rodas' custom car shop in Valencia, about 30 miles northwest of Los Angeles. Walker's publicist said the action star was the passenger. The crash happened on a street that forms an approximately one-mile loop amid industrial office parks. It is rimmed by hills and relatively isolated from traffic, especially on week-ends when the businesses are closed.

"It's well-known out here that that's a hot spot for street racers," California Highway Patrol Sgt. Rick Miller said.

Skid marks are a testament to past antics on the loop. The sheriff's department, which polices the neighbourhood, said Saturday's wreck was not the first speed-related crash there, but would not reveal specifics.

Meanwhile, investigators are consulting video from security cameras, talking to witnesses and analyzing physical evidence such as on-board computer data from the Porsche.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Lindsay Lohan

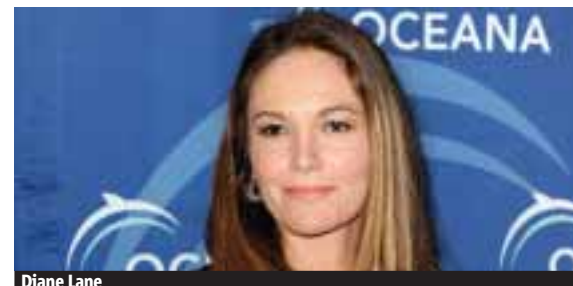
Lohan to sue Grand Theft Auto V over image rights

Lindsay Lohan is reportedly set to send her lawyers after the makers of *Grand Theft Auto V* because she believes they used her image without permission to create a character in the hugely successful video game, according to TMZ.

One part of the gameplay involves hiding a Lohan-

esque character from the paparazzi, while another tasks players to photograph her having sex at a hotel that resembles Lohan's regular hangout the Chateau Marmont.

Lohan's lawyers are reportedly crafting a suit that demands significant compensation.



Diane Lane

She's no Lois, but Lane is single ahead of role in Superman flick

Josh Brolin and Diane Lane have finalized their divorce and are officially single, according to E! News.

The couple was married for eight years before Lane filed for divorce in February.

"It is very amicable," a

source says.

"It's not ugly, it's just over."

Lane is currently gearing up to film *Batman vs. Superman*, while Brolin most recently checked himself into rehab for alcohol abuse.

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Twitter



@Schwarzenegger

Traveled all the way to Tokyo to promote Escape Plan. Chef at the hotel is from my hometown! What are the odds?



@ElizabethHurley

Snuggling back under the duvet after having to let favourite Labrador out...



@lenadunham

Just saw a teenage couple rolling on the ground, the boy moaning in pain. Asked if they needed help and they bolted. And so it begins...

Only the best in sunny Key West

Party spot. Warm Florida town rivals New Orleans for wild street life and just plain old fun



JIM BYERS
@jimbyerstravel
jimbyerstravel.com

Wild, weird and utterly wonderful.

From sunset cheers to cheap beers, and from wacky parades to fine cuisine, Key West might be the only town in North America that give New Orleans a run for its money in terms of forget all your cares, down and dirty fun. Here's a look.

Doing

America doesn't mind selling guns to almost anyone, but they generally frown on sipping an adult beverage on a public street. Go figure. Lucky for you, Key West encourages us to take the libation of our choice and stroll down Duval Street, all the while wearing just about anything that might strike our fancy. Everything you've heard about this street is true; cross-dressers give you the come on as you parade past, tiny bars offer dollar beers (okay, American beers, but still) and gays and lesbians and transgendered folks mingle with gawking tourists from Peterborough



Sunsets at Mallory Square in Key West are an event with lots of drinking and wild applause. JIM BYERS/METRO

and Pennsylvania. Crowds gather nightly at Mallory Square to watch the sunset and applaud the majesty. Tacky? Maybe. But tons of fun, and a great way to meet people. Duval is a parade almost any night, but it's especially wild around Mardi Gras and Halloween. Too much excitement? Try a wonderful, peaceful sail on a classic schooner. For \$5, you'll get a 90-minute ride on the shimmering green waters of the Florida Keys. Free sodas and beer, wine or champagne for

a buck. You also could retreat into the quiet of the beautiful, white St. Paul's Episcopal Church if you really want a respite.

Sleeping

Should you choose to actually go to bed, the options are endless. High end luxury types can opt for the Casa Marina, a Waldorf Astoria resort. Rooms aren't large in an old place like this but it's beautiful, and you can arrange for a dinner just steps from the sand. Rooms

listed recently for \$179 and up in December. Close to the action, but a world apart. Closer to Duval, but still far enough away, is the Key Lime Inn, part of the Historic Key West Inns group. The pool isn't fancy but the units are Florida chic and the folks friendly as can be. Rooms from about \$159 in December.

Dining

Seven Fish is a dynamite spot near the Key Lime Inn, offering luscious fish, and, I'm told, excellent meat

Learning

Killed too many brain cells and need a jolt of something historical? Check out the Truman "Little White House" on Front Street to see where Harry S. himself did some of his work. Or look into the Hemingway Home and Museum, one-time hang-out of the famous author and former Toronto Star correspondent, or the Key West Heritage House Museum and Robert Frost Cottage. Then, just to even things out, walk down to Duval, grab a Heineken and watch the party. My God, you didn't come to Key West to better your education, did you?

loaf. Looking for something more, well, Floridian? You can't beat the casual, outdoor dining at Blue Heaven, where one of the buildings used to be a bordello and where stray cats or chickens often roam among tables set under luxurious palms and a giant sail.

Drinking

Too many to mention. But try Sloppy Joe's on Duval or Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville. Other great spots include the Green Parrot on Whitehead St., which Playboy magazine once called the definitive Key West saloon.

3
THE

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Roll everything minus the kitchen sink into these sweet and salty treats

This is the cookie to make when you're looking to clean out the cupboards.

You'll pack them with all manner of treats — and oddities — from rolled oats,

Ingredients

- 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, room temperature
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp kosher salt
- 1 egg
- 1 egg yolk
- 2 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 tbsp previously brewed coffee grounds
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 3/4 cup rolled oats
- 3/4 cup chopped prunes
- 1 cup crushed wavy potato chips
- 1 cup salted peanuts
- 1 cup chopped bittersweet chocolate

peanuts and chocolate chips to chopped prunes, crushed potato chips and even coffee grounds (trust us on that last one). The more unusual the combination, the better the results. But don't feel you have to stop there. Got any other crackers, chips, nuts or dried fruit handy? Toss them in and let these cookies truly earn their kitchen sink name.

1. Heat the oven to 350 F. Line a large baking sheet with kitchen parchment.

2. In a large bowl, use an electric mixer to beat together the butter, both sugars, baking soda, baking powder and salt until light and fluffy. Beat in the egg, egg yolk, vanilla and coffee grounds. Stir in the flour, then stir in the oats, prunes, potato chips, peanuts and chocolate.

3. Working in batches, scoop one tablespoon-sized balls of dough onto the prepared bak-

Sweet-and-Salty Kitchen Sink Cookies



This recipe makes four and a half dozen cookies. MATTHEW MEAD, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ing sheet, leaving 2 inches between the cookies. Bake for 11 to 13 minutes, or until light golden brown. Allow the cook-

ies to cool for 5 minutes on the baking sheet before transferring to a rack to cool completely. Allow the baking sheet to

cool between batches. Store in an airtight container at room temperature.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Drink of the Week

Bombay Butter Toddy

- 1 and 1/2 oz Bombay Sapphire
 - 1/2 oz Drambuie
 - 6 oz Mulled Apple Cider
 - 1 knob butter
- ### Mulled Apple Cider
- 2 L apple cider
 - 4 cinnamon sticks
 - 4 orange slices
 - 2 tbsp brown sugar
 - 1 tbsp nutmeg
 - 1 tbsp whole allspice
 - 1 tbsp whole cloves
 - 1/2 inch fresh ginger (cut into coins)

On medium heat, mull the apple cider for an hour. Stir occasionally. Add Bombay Sapphire, Drambuie and a knob of butter to mug. Pour in mulled cider. Garnish with cinnamon stick and apple slice. Use cinnamon stick to stir in butter as it melts into drink. TROY GILCHRIST/ BOMBAY SAPPHIRE



Freeze-dried strawberries add a potent blast of flavour

1. In a medium bowl, use an electric mixer to beat together the butter, sugar, vanilla, baking powder and salt. Add the egg yolks and beat to combine. Stir in the flour until a dough just comes together. Stir in the strawberries and pistachios until evenly distributed.

2. Divide the dough in half. Using a sheet of waxed paper to help you work with the dough, shape each half into a log 1 1/2 inches around and 12 inches long. Wrap tightly and refrigerate for at least 3 hours.

3. When ready to bake, heat the oven to 375 F.

4. Place the sanding sugar in a dinner plate. Unwrap one of the logs and roll it in the sugar to coat the sides. Using a paring knife, slice the log into about 30 rounds. To prevent the log from losing its shape, turn the log a little with each slice. Working in batches, arrange the slices on a baking sheet, leaving 1 inch between them.

5. Bake for 15 to 17 minutes, or until golden brown around the edges. Transfer to a rack to cool completely. Repeat with the remaining log.

6. Store cookies in an airtight container at room temperature. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



This Strawberry Pistachio Icebox Cookie recipe makes 5 dozen cookies. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

- 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, room temperature
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 tsp vanilla extract
- 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 2 egg yolks
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 cup crushed freeze-dried strawberries
- 1 cup chopped shelled pistachios
- Sanding (coarse decorating) sugar

Dessert. Peanut Butter and Jelly Cookies



1. Heat the oven to 350 F. Line a baking sheet with kitchen parchment.

2. In food processor, combine granulated sugar and golden raisins, then pulse until chopped to small pieces, but not a puree.

3. In bowl, beat brown sugar, peanut butter, eggs, vanilla and salt until thoroughly mixed. Mix in the sugar and raisins until evenly distributed.

4. Working in batches, scoop 1 tablespoon-sized balls of dough onto the prepared baking sheet, leaving 2 inches between cookies. Use a fork to make crosshatch design on the top of each cookie, slightly flattening them in the process. Bake for

11 to 13 minutes, or until light golden brown.

5. Allow the cookies to cool on the baking sheet for 5 minutes before transferring to a rack to cool completely. Allow the baking sheet to cool between batches. Store in an airtight container at room temperature.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup golden raisins
- 1 1/2 cups brown sugar
- 15-oz jar natural peanut butter
- 2 eggs
- 2 tsp vanilla extract
- 1/2 tsp kosher salt

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Have ambition, will travel. Four ways that working while travelling can boost your career

TANIA DESA
TalentEgg.ca

You just sent in another job application.

But while you're trying to line up some much-needed work experience to put on your CV, you secretly dream of jumping on a train with a Euro rail pass and exploring the winding streets of Paris this summer.

Ready for some red-hot truth? You can have both.

The world is flat, haven't you heard? So get your running shoes on and explore the internship opportunities that exist all around the globe. To be sure, it isn't easy. Finding work abroad takes extra effort and some major motivation.

However, working abroad not only gives you the chance to live out the adventure of your dreams — you'll also gain

international experience that will differentiate your resumé from the pile.

Still on the fence? Here are the top four ways international work experience could propel your career (and life):

Learn to work with different cultures

Your resumé probably includes some generic skills or experiences. For example, you might describe your retail experience as having taught you to be a "good team member" who "excels at communicating with diverse groups."

These are important skills, but they also sound generic.

Working abroad provides you with a learning experience that is both unique and substantial.

When you find yourself emerged in a new societal culture as well as a new corporate culture, you will double your learning.

You will have the opportunity to observe the unique chain of command, dynamics of team meetings and even lunchtime rituals. Your intercultural competence will grow if you are open to the experiences, obser-

Make a difference

Taking on a global internship gives you the opportunity to contribute your unique skill set to an organization or a community that needs it

- Perhaps you have a dream of giving back to a community in need or a city in crisis. Taking on a voluntary internship at an NGO, startup or government organization will not only enable you to give back but also equip you with valuable leadership and practical skills that will be stepping stones in your career.

ventions and stories that unfold.

Enhance your employability and resumé

Imagine witnessing how contracts are negotiated in India, how a product is launched in Germany or how the R&D process works in Japan.

By working abroad, you have the unique ability to learn how processes, procedures and

business operate in different countries. You will witness and learn to appreciate the differences and similarities between the Canadian and foreign markets. Working abroad can enhance your communication skills, flexibility and adaptability. International assignments give you exposure to emerging or developed foreign markets in order to give you the leading edge in our increasingly globalized world.

Build global networks

Developing a solid community of contacts is an essential career-building step.

Working abroad will enable you to create new global contacts, explore new industries and learn about career avenues you may not even be aware of.

As you mingle with colleagues in the office and make friends outside of work, you will create relationships that can aid in building a truly global career. Learn people's stories and be genuinely curious.

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Sharks remain near top of NHL food chain

NHL. San Jose among Western Conference's elite after last season's 'reset' on the fly

It's unusual to see a playoff contender sell at the trade deadline, yet that's exactly what the San Jose Sharks did last year.

General manager Doug Wilson sent Ryane Clowe, Michal Handzus and Douglas Murray away with a "reset, refresh" plan on how to proceed.

It worked, and the Sharks found another gear down the stretch and through the first quarter of this season.

This is a much different Sharks team than in the past. San Jose is built for the kind of speed that coach Todd McLellan thinks is necessary in today's NHL.

"We're talking about playing a more north-south game, not slowing it down as much, trying to stay ahead of the curve," McLellan said earlier this season. "I think that's the way the game is going. Where coming out of the last lockout you could delay and look for people and hold on to it a little bit longer, teams have figured



James Reimer reacts after giving up the first of two goals in the first period to the San Jose Sharks in Toronto on Tuesday night. DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

out how to defend that now, and you have to advance and try and stay ahead of the curve."

The Sharks look about as far ahead of the curve as they can get. Going into Tuesday night's

game at the Toronto Maple Leafs, they were 18-3-5, led the league in shots per game and sat behind just the defending champion Chicago Blackhawks in goals a game.

Once led by Joe Thornton and Patrick Marleau, the Sharks have transformed into a team led by young star Logan Couture. Marleau and Thornton are still around, still scoring and have embraced the new style.

"It's always uptempo and you know everybody's going to be going, so it's fun to come to the rink," Marleau said.

Winning is fun, too, and it's a product of an attacking, north-south style Wilson planned for

when he made those trades at the deadline. The vision was there, but it took much more than that to make it work.

"We were able to make that transition because we had younger players underneath that were ready to play," Wilson said in a phone interview. "It goes back to giving the coaches credit for developing the younger players to be ready when the opportunities came." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Go to metronews.ca for coverage of the Sharks' game in Toronto on Tuesday.



NHL

Hank Z joins Pavel D on Red Wings' injury list

Henrik Zetterberg will miss at least two weeks with a back injury, leaving the Detroit Red Wings without their top two scorers for the time being.

Fellow centre Pavel Datsyuk remains out because of a concussion.

Zetterberg has 11 goals and 19 assists for a team-high 30 points, and Datsyuk has a team-high 12 goals and 11 assists. Datsyuk was to be reevaluated Tuesday, but there's no timetable for his return.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBL Canada

Lightning quickly fill backcourt void

In their ongoing hunt for a new guard, the London Lightning think they might have found what they like in Tony Bennett.

The six-foot-one Bennett is expected to be in town Thursday and will practise with the team on Friday.

The 29-year-old most recently played in Lithuania. He's also spent time with the NBL's Halifax Rainmen and played for teams in the U.S. Premier Basketball League and Independent Basketball Association.

Bennett comes to London "well recommended from a number of coaches" and has experience playing against many current Lightning players, the team said Tuesday.

The Lightning released guard Maurice Carter on Monday after a stint of less than a month in London.

METRO

Snake charmer

150

At one time, when playing in Minnesota with the Wild, 28-year-old Sharks forward Brent Burns owned a collection of over 150 reptiles. On a whim several years ago, he decided to buy some snakes to overcome his fear of the reptiles, but had to leave his collection behind when he was traded to San Jose in 2011. Burns said he loved feeding them and watching what they can do with their bodies. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

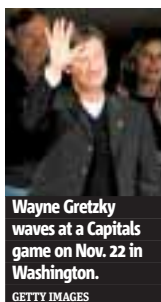


NHL. Gretzky to be repaid Coyotes' losses, sources say

The NHL has reached a settlement with Wayne Gretzky to pay him money owed from his time with the Phoenix Coyotes, multiple source with knowledge of the situation told The Canadian Press.

It was worth close to \$8 million US, according to one source, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Gretzky was owed money from former Coyotes owner Jerry Moyes. He filed for bankruptcy in 2009, leading to the NHL's ownership of the



Wayne Gretzky waves at a Capitals game on Nov. 22 in Washington. GETTY IMAGES

bankrupt. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

team until it was sold this past summer.

Gretzky had served as coach and head of hockey operations before the Coyotes went

Skiing

Vonn could return in Lake Louise

The U.S. Ski Team says Lindsey Vonn has been cleared to begin World Cup downhill training.

Vonn is expected to start in Wednesday's first official training session at Lake Louise, where she has won 14 races, including three each of the past two years.

The team says a decision on whether Vonn will return to competition will be made after Thursday's training session.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Curling. Jones, Sweeting sweeping successes at trials

Two teams shared the top of the standings on both the men's and women's sides at the Canadian Olympic curling trials on Tuesday in Winnipeg.

Jennifer Jones and Val Sweeting sat at 3-1 on the women's side while Brad Jacobs and Kevin Martin remained unbeaten with three wins apiece going into the men's late draw Tuesday.

Sweeting is technically in the lead among the women, thanks to handing Jones her only loss. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



Winnipeg's Jennifer Jones. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Catcher J.P. Arencibia chases down a ball that got away as the Kansas City Royals' Jason Bourgeois scores during a game in Toronto in 2012. The Blue Jays cut Arencibia loose on Monday night. STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

New Jays backstop 'hungry' to return to starting role: GM

Two-year, \$8-million deal. With Navarro in, Arencibia out, team hoping for someone who can deliver behind and in front of the plate

Alex Anthopoulos was prepared to stay the course with catcher J.P. Arencibia, until he discovered the Toronto Blue Jays could make an upgrade behind the plate with free agent Dioner Navarro.

The Jays officially parted way with Arencibia on Monday by declining to tender a contract offer to the fourth-year catcher. The move came after Anthopoulos signed Navarro to a two-year, \$8-million US deal.

Making contact

.300

Dioner Navarro, a 10-year veteran from Venezuela, has served mostly as a backup but was an all-star with Tampa Bay in 2008. He hit .300 with a career-high 13 home runs in 89 games for the Chicago Cubs last season. He also had 34 runs batted in.

"Dioner had a wonderful year last year in 240 at-bats, and we think that there's some upside there, especially considering his age," the Blue Jays' GM said on a conference call Tuesday. "We just think it's a nice fit, and obviously we'll find out."

Arencibia struggled through the worst season of his career in 2013, with a .194 batting average, 21 home runs

and 55 RBIs. The 27-year-old struck out 148 times, 15th-most in Major League Baseball.

Still, Anthopoulos said the decision to replace Arencibia wasn't made until the "last few weeks or so."

Anthopoulos said Navarro — who's played for the New York Yankees, Los Angeles, Tampa Bay, Cincinnati and the Chicago Cubs — is keen to return to a starting role in the majors.

"The fact that Dioner has played over a hundred games three times in his career, has been an all-star and is only 29, that certainly factored into the decision," he said. "Dioner is very motivated and very hungry to get back to being that everyday guy; he just hasn't had an opportunity to be the everyday guy since he left the Rays." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Boston	27	18	7	2	75	55	38
Montreal	28	16	9	3	76	59	35
Detroit	28	14	7	7	78	73	35
Tampa Bay	26	16	9	1	76	66	33
Toronto	27	14	10	3	75	73	31
Ottawa	27	10	13	4	78	90	24
Florida	27	7	15	5	59	91	19
Buffalo	28	6	20	2	48	85	14

METROPOLITAN DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Pittsburgh	28	18	9	1	86	64	37
Washington	27	14	11	2	82	78	30
NY Rangers	28	14	14	0	62	71	28
New Jersey	28	11	12	5	61	67	27
Philadelphia	27	12	13	2	57	65	26
Carolina	27	10	12	5	57	78	25
Columbus	27	10	14	3	67	80	23
NY Islanders	27	8	15	4	72	93	20

Tuesday's results

San Jose at Toronto
Tampa Bay at Columbus
Carolina at Washington
Pittsburgh at NY Islanders
Ottawa at Florida
Vancouver at Nashville
Dallas at Chicago
Phoenix at Edmonton
Los Angeles at Anaheim

Monday's results

Winnipeg 5 NY Rangers 2
Montreal 3 New Jersey 2
Minnesota 2 Philadelphia 0
Los Angeles 3 St. Louis 2

Wednesday's games — All times Eastern

Montreal at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Detroit, 8 p.m.
Phoenix at Calgary, 10 p.m.

Thursday's games

Dallas at Toronto, 7 p.m.
San Jose at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
NY Rangers at Buffalo, 7 p.m.

Winnipeg at Florida, 7:30 p.m.

Boston at Montreal, 7:30 p.m.

Ottawa at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.

Carolina at Nashville, 8 p.m.

NY Islanders at St. Louis, 8 p.m.

Chicago at Minnesota, 8 p.m.

Colorado at Edmonton, 9:30 p.m.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Chicago	28	20	4	4	102	76	44
St. Louis	26	18	5	3	91	60	39
Colorado	25	19	6	0	76	52	38
Minnesota	29	16	8	5	70	67	37
Winnipeg	29	13	12	4	78	82	30
Nashville	27	13	11	3	62	75	29
Dallas	25	12	9	4	70	73	28

PACIFIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
San Jose	26	18	3	5	92	60	41
Anaheim	29	18	7	4	91	77	40
Los Angeles	28	17	7	4	73	60	38
Phoenix	26	15	7	4	85	84	34
Vancouver	29	14	10	5	77	77	33
Calgary	26	9	13	4	70	93	22
Edmonton	28	9	17	2	73	95	20

Note: 2 points for a win, 1 point for overtime loss.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	Pt
Crosby, Pgh	13	23	36
Malkin, Pgh	7	28	35
Steen, StL	20	11	31
Getzlaf, Ana	13	18	31
Kane, Chi	16	14	30
Tavares, NYI	11	19	30
Zetterberg, Det	11	19	30
Ovechkin, Wash	21	8	29
Perry, Ana	15	14	29
Thornton, SJ	4	25	29
H. Sedin, Van	7	21	28
Kunitz, Pgh	14	13	27
Couture, SJ	9	18	27
Karlsson, Ott	7	20	27
Marleau, SJ	12	14	26
Little, Win	12	14	26
Ryan, Ott	13	12	25
Backes, StL	12	13	25
Toews, Chi	12	13	25
D. Sedin, Van	10	15	25

Tuesday's games not included

MLS PLAYOFFS

MLS CUP

Saturday's game

Kansas City vs. Salt Lake, 4 p.m., EST

NFL

Monday's result

Seattle 34 New Orleans 7

WEEK 14

Thursday's game — All times Eastern

Houston at Jacksonville, 8:25 p.m.

Sunday's games

Kansas City at Washington, 1 p.m.

Minnesota at Baltimore, 1 p.m.

Buffalo at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.

Oakland at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.

Miami at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.

Cleveland at New England, 1 p.m.

Indianapolis at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.

Atlanta at Green Bay, 1 p.m.

Detroit at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.

Tennessee at Denver, 4:05 p.m.

N.Y. Giants at San Diego, 4:25 p.m.

Seattle at San Francisco, 4:25 p.m.

St. Louis at Arizona, 4:25 p.m.

Carolina at New Orleans, 8:30 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 9

Dallas at Chicago, 8:40 p.m.

NBA

Tuesday's results

Orlando at Philadelphia
Denver at Brooklyn
Milwaukee at Boston
Detroit at Miami

Phoenix at Memphis

Charlotte at Dallas

Oklahoma City at Sacramento

Toronto at Golden State

Washington 98 Orlando 80

New Orleans 131 Chicago 128 (3OT)

San Antonio 102 Atlanta 100

Utah 109 Houston 103

Portland 106 Indiana 102

Wednesday's games — All times Eastern

Denver at Cleveland, 7 p.m.

L.A. Clippers at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.

Phoenix at Houston, 8 p.m.

Detroit at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.

Dallas at New Orleans, 8 p.m.

Indiana at Utah, 9 p.m.

San Antonio at Minnesota, 9:30 p.m.

Oklahoma City at Portland, 10 p.m.

Thursday's games

New York at Brooklyn, 7 p.m.

L.A. Clippers at Memphis, 8 p.m.

Miami at Chicago, 9:30 p.m.

MLB

Source has catcher Saltalamacchia going to Florida

A person familiar with the negotiations says catcher Jarrod Saltalamacchia has agreed to a \$21 million, three-year deal with the Miami Marlins.

The person confirmed the agreement to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity Tuesday because the contract had not been finalized.

Saltalamacchia started for the Boston Red Sox the past three seasons, but they were reluctant to give him a multiyear deal.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL

Rogers lock up naming rights to new arena in Edmonton

Already heavily invested in the sponsorship of the Edmonton Oilers, Rogers Communications has now acquired the naming rights for Edmonton's future downtown arena.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Baseball. Nationals, A's pick up pitchers

On a night usually dominated by news of players let loose, the Washington Nationals and Oakland Athletics filled pitching needs with trades.

Washington obtained right-hander Doug Fister from Detroit for infielder Steve Lombardozzi and left-handers Robbie Ray and Ian Krol on Monday. Oakland acquired closer Jim Johnson from Baltimore for infielder Jemile Weeks and a player to be named.

Fister was 14-9 with a 3.67

ERA last season for the AL Central champions, who last month traded slugging first baseman Prince Fielder to Texas for second baseman Ian Kinsler.

Oakland, which also closed in on a \$22-million, two-year contract with left-hander Scott Kazmir, is revamping after losing to the Tigers in the AL division series. The 30-year-old Johnson led the majors with 51 saves in 2012 and tied for the big-league lead last season with 50.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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2014 Kia Soul

Review. Still quirky, but with a beefier body and classier interior

MIKE GOETZ
Drive@metronews.ca

When quirky vehicles get their number called at the redesign department deli, they present an interesting dilemma to their design teams. How do you modernize or update them without making them too pretty?

It's much like Keith Richards — you don't want to smooth the hair, button the shirt up, or have him throw on more understated and elegant earrings, so he stops looking like a pirate. People love the pirate! So Kia did what it could only do when redesigning its quirky Soul for 2014 — change everything else except that iconic shape, face and tailgate.

The tailgate design was originally conceived around the idea of a backpack, and looks even more backpack-like this time around. The 2014 Soul is slightly longer and wider and lower than the outgoing model. Losing a bit of that top-heavy look and feel, and moving to a beefier platform, with lots more high-strength and ultra high-strength steel, have created a Soul that handles so much more proficiently and smoothly and quietly than the outgoing model.

Kyle Buller, the product planning supervisor at Kia Canada, says there is just as much high-strength steel in the new Soul as there is in the Audi A3. He adds that the size of the Hyundai-Kia group has enabled it to own and operate its own metal foundry. "We're able to source high-strength steel internally, which really helps in pricing," Buller said. Kia initially aimed the Soul at younger buyers, but older folks have gravitated to them because



ALL PHOTOS KIA



The interior has an upscale feel and a circular theme.

they are so easy to get in and out of... They also give emptiest baby boomers that tall-in-the saddle-feel of regular SUVs, but without the huge gas bill.

My baby boomer bones agree. The front door is nice and big, and it's easy as pie to slide over to the cushy driver's seat. The entire interior is a fantastic leap from the previous model, which was known for its cheap-feeling interior. This interior is upscale in feel, and entirely conceived in a "circular" theme. Everything that can be made into a round shape had been made into a round shape. Even the steering wheel is round! Okay, so that was a no brainer, but the

wheel is really great too, with a very chunky and substantial feel.

The rear tailgate is very light and easy to use. But the load floor is quite high, which eats up a bit of storage space. And the rear seats don't entirely fold forward flat.

Both engines feature state-of-the-art direct injection (GDI in Kia-speak). The base 1.6-litre makes 130 hp and 118 lb-ft of torque, so it's not a rocket, but certainly adequate and certainly fuel-efficient: its City/Highway L/100 km ratings for automatic models are 8.6 and 6.5. The upgrade 2.0-litre engine features dual-cam variable timing, and produces 164 hp and

2014 Kia Soul

- **Type.** Five-door, front-wheel-drive, compact "tall" wagon
- **Engines (hp).** 1.8-litre DOHC I4, (130), 2.0-litre DOHC I4 (164)
- **Transmissions.** Six-speed manual and six-speed automatic
- **Base price (incl. destination).** \$16,995

Design

The look has changed little from the previous model, which was originally conceived as the automotive equivalent of a British Bulldog wearing a backpack. Slight lower, longer and wider proportions suggest better on-road performance.

Compare

1 Nissan Juke
Base price: \$19,998

2 Scion xB
Base price: \$18,960

SX (\$23,595), and SX Luxury (\$26,995). It's hard to not like the Soul. Great style, great utility, very decent on-road performance, fuel economy, and value. And my colleagues seem to agree. Fellow AJAC members have just named it a 2014 Car of the Year in its segment for Best New Family Car Under \$30,000.

The AJAC Car of the Year finalists

The Automobile Journalists Association of Canada has narrowed down 36 potential winners to 12 finalists for the 2014 Canadian Car of the Year Award. A group of 80 AJAC members — journalists representing news outlets from coast to coast — test-drove 174 vehicles during a week-long series of trials in Niagara Falls this past October.

The annual fall new auto test event is conducted to evaluate the vehicles in the

dozen categories on the same day, over the same route, including a high-speed test circuit and/or a simulated off-road course or cottage road, depending on the category.

Testers ranked a wide range of attributes covering design, space, quality, performance, safety, economy and value. Professional test drivers also graded every vehicle for acceleration from rest and for passing acceleration and braking.

Transport Canada fuel consumption figures were also factored in. Vehicle traits are weighted differently in the various categories, taking into consideration that aspects like acceleration are more important for a sports car than a pickup truck. The vehicle's price is also considered in the sense that expensive vehicles should naturally offer better performance and style than lower-priced wheels.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

12 Category finalists

- **Small Car (under \$21k):** Mazda 3
- **Small Car (over \$21k):** Mazda 3 Sport
- **Family Car (under \$30k):** Kia Soul
- **Family Car (over \$30k):** Mazda 6
- **Luxury Car (under \$50k):** Lexus IS 350 RWD
- **Luxury Car (over \$50k):**

- Infiniti Q50 Hybrid
- **Sports/Performance (\$50k+):** Chevrolet Corvette Stingray
- **Prestige Car (over \$75k):** Mercedes-Benz S Class
- **SUV/CUV (under \$35k):** Jeep Cherokee
- **SUV/CUV (\$35k to \$60k):** Kia Sorento
- **SUV/CUV (\$60k+):** Acura MDX
- **Pickup:** GMC Sierra

Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 20

You will hear something amazing today but can you believe it? If it sounds too good, check it out first. Commit too soon and you could find you've signed up for something that does you no good.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

The only thing to fear is fear itself, so put your doubts behind you and plunge headlong into the unknown. That might not sound like a typically Taurus thing to do but, what have you got to lose?

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

Someone in a position of power thinks you're pretty special and if you are smart you will play up to it and make it pay. Use your way with words to get a promotion.

Cancer

June 22 - July 23

If someone is difficult to get along with today, you should make it your business to find out why. Most likely it is nothing too serious and may even be something you are able to help with.

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

You may have no particular interest in the chores you are expected to do today, but do them anyway and make sure you do a good job. Come the weekend, you will be free again to pursue your own interests.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

Family relationships are under favourable stars, so reach out to someone you love and let them know how you feel. Some say Virgos are cool, so now is your chance to prove them wrong.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

Use your head today, especially when dealing with people who tend to get emotional over trivial matters. No matter how agitated they may get, you must stay focused on the facts.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

You may have deep feelings about a situation but you must not let emotions get in the way of what needs to be done. Yes, of course, love makes the world go around but it needs a dash of common sense too.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

If a tough decision is called for, you must make it and live with the consequences. The planets warn the worst possible thing you can do is to hedge your bets. Come down on one side of the fence or the other.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Act rationally today, even if it gets you a rep as someone who is all head and no heart. Experience has taught you that people who follow only their emotions usually end up with nothing worth having.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

Don't make any hasty decisions today. You may believe you know all the facts but the planets warn there is one little thing you have overlooked — and that one little thing could have very big consequences.

Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20

Someone who has a lot more experience than you could be of help today, but you need to remember that they can't read your mind. Spell things out for them. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

Across

1. Show about Mary, Queen of Scots on which Megan Follows plays Queen Catherine
6. Denied club entry because of it, e.g.:

10. Carpentry wedge

14. Gluck opera: _____ Euridice

15. Consequently

16. "I thought we _____ deal?"

17. Mr. Eastwood

18. Linguist Mr. Chomsky

19. Jealousy

20. Edmonton-born actress Jill

22. Appearances

24. Scrooge's seasonal sentiment

25. Confusion-causing mess

26. Thomas Mulcair, Leader of the _____

30. Pressure meas.

33. Greek Myth: Crete's bronze guardian

34. Ancient Egypt: Sun god's namesakes

35. Look over

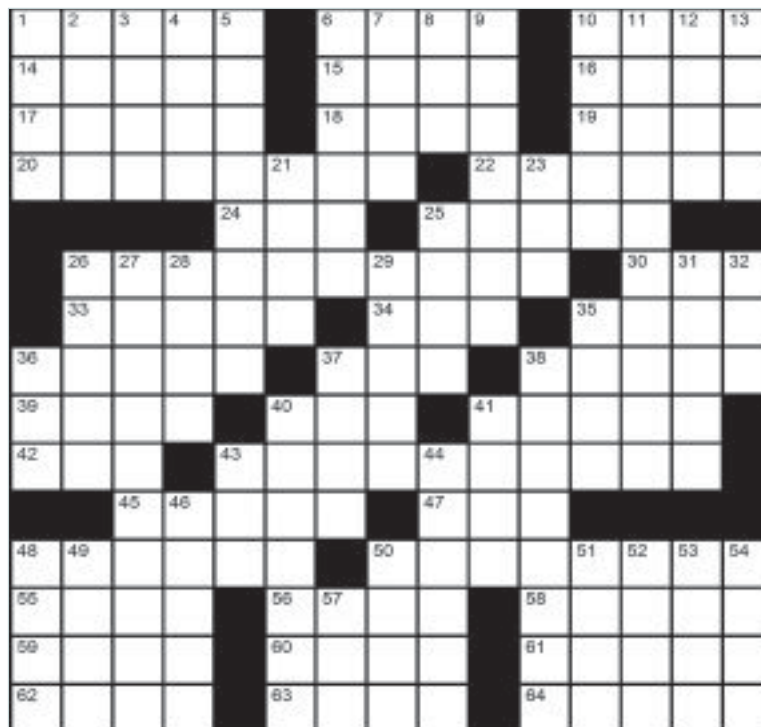
36. Mike Myers character

37. _____ the Record Man

38. Cook's creations

39. Prefix meaning 'Trillion'

40. Illinois city, for short



41. Rings loudly

42. Jimmy

43. Charlie the _____ (Creature on Prime

Minister Harper's annual Christmas card)

45. Ms. Jessica Parker

47. Small, small-ly

48. Bruce of "Dragons' Den"

50. Brian _____, Canadian sportscaster

55. _____ monde (High society)

56. Sandwich time

58. Provide

59. "_____ way, shape or form!"

60. Util. bill

61. Serviceable

62. Subtraction opp.

63. Mascara spot

64. Routines

Down

1. Mr. Voisine

2. Perry Mason creator, _____ Stanley Gardner

3. "_____ doubt..."

4. West Coast painter,

Robert _____

5. Rachel McAdams/Ryan Gosling movie, "The _____" (2004)

6. Mayor of Calgary, Naheed _____

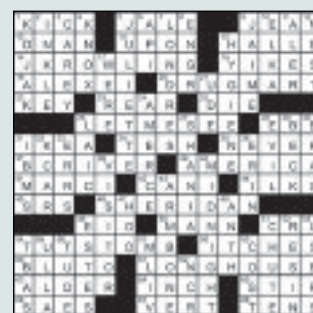
7. '_____ Plata' (Montana's state motto)

8. Grocery store chain

9. Pizza chain

10. Bundle
11. Upon answering the phone, hearing 'click': 2 wds.
12. '50s song: "If I Knew You Were Comin' _____ Baked a Cake"
13. "Ain't That the Truth" by Canadian rocker Matt _____
21. Back talk
23. Earth inhabitant
25. Thailand, formerly
26. Survey selection
27. Ontario town on Georgian Bay: 2 wds.
28. Entreaty
29. Public transport
31. Dance style
32. Advantages
35. Sigil
36. '90s gr.
37. _____Tzu (Cute dog)
38. Food Labels: Best Before... = _____ Avant...
40. Station
41. _____ and Don, The Everly Brothers
43. _____Magnon
44. Settle the deal
46. Country great Hoyt
48. Christmastime 'pet'
49. Author Ayn
50. Troubles
51. Keen on
52. Mine entrance
53. Donkey/horse
54. Spots
57. 'Pay' suffix

Yesterday's Crossword

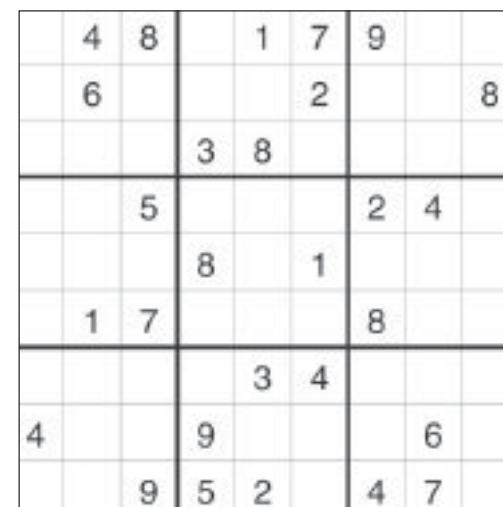
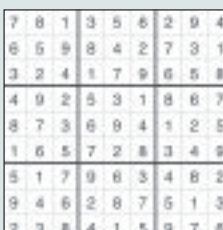


Sudoku

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku



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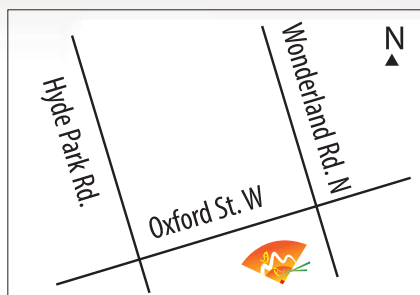


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